



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/977,072	10/12/2001	Joel B. Douglas	2316.1581US01	1778
23552	7590	09/02/2004	EXAMINER	
MERCHANT & GOULD PC				LAVARIAS, ARNEL C
P.O. BOX 2903				
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903				
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2872		

DATE MAILED: 09/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/977072	10/12/01	Douglas et.al.	2316,1581 US01
EXAMINER			
Lavaricis			
ART UNIT	PAPER		
		2872	20040831

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

See Attached.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. It has been brought to the attention of the Examiner that the publication dates of the listed foreign patent documents in the information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 1/31/02 were improperly listed (i.e. at least the month and year must be listed for these documents as per MPEP 609). The Examiner has corrected the publication dates for these documents listed on the information disclosure statement, and a copy of the information disclosure statement with these changes is being provided to the Applicant.

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arnel C. Lavarias whose telephone number is 571-272-2315. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Drew Dunn can be reached on 571-272-2312. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Arnel C. Lavaras
8/31/04



THONG NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2800